

**CAS** 109-86-4

**Substance name** 2-Methoxyethanol (also called ethylene glycol monomethyl ether)

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### **Toxicity**

2-Methoxyethanol is listed as a reproductive hazard by the state of California and the European Union.<sup>1,2</sup> It causes reproductive and developmental toxicity in laboratory animals including reduced fertility, effects on sperm and male gonads, fetotoxicity, and low birthweights.<sup>3-6</sup> Cases of occupational exposures associated with testicular effects have been reported.<sup>4</sup> Hematotoxic effects have also been reported.<sup>4,5</sup>

### **Exposure**

2-Methoxyethanol has been used as a solvent for low viscosity cellulose acetate, varnishes, dyes, and resins. It may also be used in paper board manufacturing.<sup>4</sup> The Danish EPA tested coatings on wooden toys and found it in 1 of the 15 coatings tested.<sup>7</sup>

### **References**

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<http://ecb.jrc.ec.europa.eu/esis/>.
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<http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/cgi-bin/sis/htmlgen?HSDB> Accessed May 2010.
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6. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Toxicology Program. Abstracts of NTP Reproductive Studies on Ethylene glycol monomethyl ether.  
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7. Danish Ministry of the Environment, Environmental Protection Agency. Survey of Chemical Substances in Consumer Products Report 60, 2005.  
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